

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INTELLOFAX 14

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Italy

SECURITY INFORMATION

DATE DISTR. 16 Oct. 1951

SUBJECT Italian Communist Party
Citizens Sector Committees
25X1A

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X
REPORT NO.

REFERENCE COPY

1. The Milan Citizens Sectors Committees of the Partito Comunista Italiano (PCI; Italian Communist Party) organized in 1949 have strengthened the organization and the political unity of the Party and have created new cadres which have acquired a practical experience and a knowledge of the lower echelons that the Directorate of itself could never hope to attain. The Committees have enabled the Milan Federation to direct the Section and factory cells through the agency of qualified comrades, who in their turn have acquired a deeper knowledge of the Party's operational methods and of the worker's problems.. The Committees have been especially useful in the factories, where they have helped achieve the unification of the workers in the collection of signatures against the atom bomb and in the cementing of Italo-Soviet friendship and relations. They have had a profound and positive influence on the technical, administrative and agitation and propaganda activity of the Federation. Nevertheless, the Committees have also created a gulf between the Federation leaders and the rank and file of the Party.
2. This inherent danger was foreseen when the Committees were created, and steps taken to prevent its occurrence. However, despite the strengthening of the Federation Work Commissions and the appointment of direct liaison agents between the Federation and the Sections, this gap has continued to increase. This represents a serious obstacle to the political initiative of the lower echelons. The Sector Committees, occupied with their organizational work, are unable to work out ways and means of translating the general directives as received. The Committees often complain of the increasing difficulties of the situation, without realizing that their failure to rectify this situation is because of the fact that they have not the authority to force the lower levels to comply with the directives from higher authorities.
3. At the moment, when there is an excellent opportunity for the PCI to enlarge its existing alliances and expand the fight for peace, the political initiative of the smaller Party units has acquired added importance, and it is absolutely necessary to bridge the gap between the PCI Directorate and the subordinate groups. The bureaucratic methods and organizational blocks which encumber the work of the Party and limit its administrative efficiency must be removed. On this basis, the Sector Committees are an obstacle to the political development of the Party base, for their structure is not adapted to meeting

EV		CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY	
STATE	WFO	NAVY	NSRB
ARMY	AIR	FBI	DISTRIBUTION

Document No.	/
No Change in Class.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Declassified	<input type="checkbox"/>
Class. Changed To	TS S (C)
Date	05 SEP 1978
By	24

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY 25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

the problems which arise in a city such as Milan. Consequently, the Sections and the factory cells must be directed by the Federation Directing Committee through the agency of the work commissions; there can be no intermediary agency.

4. By assigning experienced workers to the work commissions, the Federation will be able to preserve the gains it has made on the directive level and will greatly increase the initiative and ability of the base units. At the same time, it is necessary to reinforce the leading city Sections, by placing therein qualified workers who have already had experience on a Sector basis. The 1951 recruitment campaign showed that best results can be obtained when there is direct contact between the Directorate and the lower units, through the agency of the work commissions. In this way a unified plan can be applied throughout the city and it can be controlled by the Federation.
5. However, this organizational change must not result in a loss of operating efficiency. The Sectors must continue to be the center of cadre meetings, of administrative work and of personal contacts. As such, the Sectors must employ one qualified person who is under the direct supervision of the Organization Commission of the Federation. This transformation demands more adequate methods of direction and of coordination from the Federation; otherwise the sectors will dissipate energy and fail to achieve maximum efficiency.
6. The zone committees must be reinforced. To this end, they must immediately form their own work committees. They too must acquire greater political initiative with the help of the Federation Secretariat and must increase the number and efficiency of their members. Only in this way can they effectively control the Sections which are under their jurisdiction. The Zone committees are detached from the Federation Directing Committee. They are under the Federation Secretariat and their members are part of the work commissions of the Federation.
7. The 75 factory committees of the Milan Federation have improved of late, but are still unable to carry out their tasks of directing the subsidiary cells in a completely satisfactory manner. The factory cells are the essential instrument in the Party's politico-syndical work, and their potentialities must measure up to the demands of the Party. The principal task of the factory committees is to insure the functioning of the cells. They must, consequently, see that cell meetings are held regularly and must aid and control the political work of the cells. Particular attention must be given to the cell chiefs, who are the decisive element in the realization of all Party projects in the factories. Whenever possible, they should be sent to Party schools.
8. The most serious defects of the factory committees are:
 - a. The composition of a large number of these committees does not correspond to the duties they must carry out. The common practice of forming the committees from among the members of the Commissione Interna is an obstacle to efficiency; the committee should be formed of a member of the Commissione Interna, of the Consiglio di Gestione and of the Federazione Impiegati ed Operai Metalurgici (FIOM; Federation of Metallurgical Workers);
 - b. The committees have not exercised sufficient control over the activities of the comrades who hold responsible positions in the workers organizations;
 - c. The committees have not given sufficient attention to the formation of new cadres, and have thus overburdened the members of the existing cadres. The failure to form new cadres can also be attributed to a lack of political discipline and of auto-criticism among committee members; and
 - d. A relaxation of liaison between the factory committees and the Federation work commissions.

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY